Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 NASA-02 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 AID-05 DODE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /035 W

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FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0000

UNCLAS GABORONE 0740

E.O.11652: N/A TAGS: TSPA, BC

SUBJECT: GOB REQUEST FOR U.S. SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHY

- 1. GOB MINISTRY OF MINERAL RESOURCES AND WATER AFFAIRS HAS APPROACHED EMBASSY WITH URGENT REQUEST FOR PHOTOGRAPHY OF NORTHERN BOTSWANA BY U.S. LANDSAT SATELLITE. SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHY WOULD PROVIDE GOB WITH NEEDED INFORMATION ON EXTENT OF RECENT FLOODING IN NORTHERN BOTSWANA, PARTICULARLY IN MAUN-FRANCISTOWN AREA. UNUSUALLY HEAVY RAINS IN AREA HAVE WASHED OUT ROADS AND BRIDGES LEADING TO SEVERE ECONOMIC DISRUPTION IN SOME AREAS.
- 2. MINISTRY HAS REQUESTED THAT PHOTOGRAPHY OF FOLLOWING AREAS BE PROVIDED BY MID-APRIL IN ORDER TO AID IN EFFORTS TO COPE WITH SERIOUS FLOODING:
- A. LAT 20 DEGREE 20 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 25 DEGREE 50 MIN EAST B. LAT 19 DEGREE 30 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 26 DEGREE 00 MIN EAST C. LAT 18 DEGREE 00 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 25 DEGREE 00 MIN EAST
- 3. IN ORDER TO PROVIDE ADVANCE WARNING OF CHANGING FLOOD CONDITIONS, SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHS OF FOLLOWING AREAS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED BY END OF APRIL OR BY END OF MAY AT LATEST
- A. LAT 18 DEGREE 40 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 23 DEGREE 30 MIN EAST B. LAT 20 DEGREE 00 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 23 DEGREE 00 MIN EAST UNCLASSIFIED

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C. LAT 19 DEGREE 00 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 22 DEGREE 00 MIN EAST D. LAT 20 DEGREE 00 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 21 DEGREE 30 MIN EAST E. LAT 21 DEGREE 00 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 25 DEGREE 30 MIN EAST F. LAT 21 DEGREE 00 MIN SOUTH, LONGITUDE 24 DEGREE 30 MIN EAST

- 4. ACCORDING TO GOB'S PRINCIPAL HYDROLOGICAL ENGINEER,
- B. H. WILSON, PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN DURING CONDITIONS OF

15 PERCENT (OR GREATER) CLOUD COVER WOULD HAVE TO BE REPEATED.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S CONTACTING NASA TO REQUEST THAT REQUESTED PHOTOGRAPHS BE TAKEN ASAP. WE SUGGEST THAT DEPARTMENT SEND PHOTOGRAPHS TO EMBASSY FOR TRANSMITTAL TO GOB UNLESS ALTERNATIVE MACHINERY FOR EXPEDITIOUS EXCHANGE OF SUCH INFORMATION ALREADY EXISTS. PLEASE ADVISE US OF RESULTS OF COMMUNICATION WITH NASA INCLUDING WHEN PHOTOGRAPHS WILL BE TAKEN.

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Subject: GOB REQUEST FOR U.S. SATELLITE PHOTOGRAPHY

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